

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DJIBOU 00450 300834Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00
ACDA-12 /099 W

-----036538 300840Z /14

O 291530Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
TO SCSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 809
INFO RUTABA / AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE 403
AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SANA
RUEHDI /USMISSION USUN 202
COMIDEASTFOR
USS FOX

UNCLAS DJIBOUTI 0450
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDIP DJET US
SUBJ: DJIBOUTI REPLY TO ETHIOPIAN CHARGES
REF: DJIBOUTI 449 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF OFFICIAL
DJIBOUTI GOVERNMENT REPLY TO ETHIOPIAN STATEMENT OF 25 MARCH WHICH
OFFERS PROTECTION TO DJIBOUTI WHILE CHARGING U.S. CONNIVANCE
WITH SOMALIA. STATEMENT WAS PROVIDED PRESS AFTERNOON 29 MARCH.
2. QUOTE. A COMMUNIQUE OF THE ETHIOPIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
PUBLISHED MARCH 25 AT ADDIS ABABA, GAVE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI SOME SATISFACTION AND SEVERAL REASONS FOR
ASTONISHMENT.

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3. PRESIDENT HASSAN GOULED APTIDON NOTED WITH GREAT INTEREST
THAT FOR ETHIOPIA, " THE INDEPENDENT EXISTENCE OF DJIBOUTI, SUCH AS
IT IS NOW CONSTITUTED, " APPEARS, ACCORDING TO THE COMMUNIQUE,
" ABSOLUTELY VITAL FOR THE PEACE AND STABILITY OF THE HORN OF
AFRICA".
4. IT IS MORE SURPRISING, ON THE OTHER HAND ,THAT ETHIOPIAN
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS THOUGHT IT NECESSARY TO ADD THAT THE

ADDIS ABABA AUTHORITIES "WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE SO THAT THE INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF OUR COUNTRY MAY BE PRESERVED." THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI HAS NEVER ASKED IN FACT THAT SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA DEFEND IT AGAINST THOSE AGGRESSIVE MENACES TO WHICH IT COULD BE THE OBJECT.

5. PRESIDENT HASSAN GOULED APTIDON DESIRES, ON THE OTHER HAND, THAT PRESIDENT MENGISTU AND HIS GOVERNMENT ABSTAIN FROM ALL INTERFERENCE IN THE DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN POLICIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI. THE COMMUNIQUE THAT WE HAVE MENTIONED ABOVE INCLUDES ALLEGATIONS AND ACCUSATIONS WHICH ARE COMPLETELY WITHOUT FOUNDATION AND WHICH CONSTITUTE INADMISSIBLE INTERFERENCE IN OUR AFFAIRS.

6. IN SUM, RATHER THAN THINKING ABOUT DEFENDING THE INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI, IF SUCH WAS NEEDED, SOCIALIST ETHIOPIA WOULD DO BETTER TO BE SATISFIED FROM THE PRESENT WITH RESPECTING THE SOVEREIGNTY OF OUR COUNTRY.

7. IT IS NOT THE PLACE OF THE REPUBLIC OF DJIBOUTI TO REPLY FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE SURPRISING ACCUSATIONS WHICH WERE DIRECTED AT IT. BUT PRESIDENT HASSAN GOULED APTIDON WISHES TO MAKE IT KNOWN THAT HE IS HIGHLY SATISFIED WITH THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH THAT COUNTRY, AND THAT HE SUSPECTS IT OF NO MACHIAVELLIAN DESIGNS IN REGARD TO DJIBOUTI. END QUOTE.

CLARKE

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NNN

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